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A TREATISE OF THE Nature and Use Of the Bitter Purging Salt Contain'd in EPSOM, And such other WATERS.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THat this *Salt* is made and ſold in greater or leſſer Quantities, by *Francis Moult* Chymiſt, at the Sign of *Glaubers-Head* in *Watling-Street*;

And this Tranſlation at no other Place.

1996:15

TO THE READER.

THE *Reaſon of my publiſhing this Book in* Engliſh *is, the general Uſe I obſerve to be made of the* Bitter Purging Salt *in this Town and elſewhere, by all ſorts of Perſons, and that promiſcuouſly, in all Caſes, as Peoples Fancies or Humours prompt 'em, without any Advice beyond Publick Fame, or the good Woman that laſt viſited.*

The Sellers of this Salt *are likewiſe ſuch as uſe to diſpoſe of other Catholick or Univerſal Medicines, who neither know how to direct the Buyer, nor care what becomes of the Taker, ſo as they attain their End, their part of the Profit. There is indeed this difference; That other Medicines that have grown Popular were always uſher'd out with printed Directions, or Certificates of it's Virtues and numberleſs Cures, as* Daffy's Elixir, Spirit of Scurvy-Graſs, *Atkins's* Oil for the Gout, *&c. Nay, the very Diſciples of*

Ponteus *afford for publick Benefit a printed Encomium for a Voucher to the Twelve-Penny Packet. This I thought ſufficient to Vindicate my Tranſlation of* Dr. Grew's Nature & Uſe of the Bitter Purging Salt, *which I intend to give to thoſe who buy any quantities of the* Salt. *And I'd have the Reader take notice, That this is no Quack-Bill, no boaſting Rhodomontado of any Ignorant Pretender, no guilded Buſh to ſet off bad Wine, but the Obſervations of an Ingenious Phyſician, Fellow of both Societies, and publiſh'd by him in* Latin, *for the Information of the Practicers of Phyſick, and for no Private Intereſt or Profit. But, I can ſcarce believe the Doctor ever foreſaw the Conſequence of his Commendations would be the puſhing every Body upon the Uſe of it Hand over Head; therefore I doubt not his Pardon for my Tranſlating it without his Knowledge, my Deſign being not to diſcover the ſecret Method of its Preparation, but to prevent by theſe Directions the Miſchiefs he tells us may enſue the Abuſe of ſo good a Medicine.* Farewell.

Part

Part the First.

OF THE NATURE OF THE Bitter Purging Salt.

CHAP. I.

How the bitter Purging Waters were first Discovered.

THE Mineral Waters arising near *Epsom* in *Surrey*, the chief of all the bitter Purging Waters, were found out by a Country Man, in or about the Year 1620.

For near the first Ten Years, none but the Country People made use of them, and they only to wash External Ulcers.

Afterwards the Lord *Dudley North*, Father to *Francis* the late Lord-Keeper, labouring under a Melancholy Diſpoſition, for which he had formerly Drank the *Spaw-Waters* in *Germany*, was reſolv'd to try the Vertue of theſe *Epſom Waters*, flattering himſelf (I ſuppoſe) that he had found *Chalybeate-Waters* at his own Door.

However, tho' they anſwer'd not his deſire and expectation as to their Nature, yet he did not repent of his Experiment, but from that time drank theſe Purging Waters, as a Medicine ſent from Heaven, with abundance of ſucceſs.

Many others, encouraged by his Example, try'd the operation of theſe Waters; and amongſt the firſt, *Maria de Medicis*, Mother to the Wife of King *Charles* I. the Right Honourable *George* Lord *Goring*, Earl of *Norwich*, and many other Perſons of Quality.

Theſe, and all others, who drank the *Epſom-Waters*, came not for Pleaſure but Health, and therefore always conſulted their own, or ſome Neighboring Phyſician, for the Rules they were to obſerve.

In a little while Phyſicians came of their own accord to theſe Waters, by whoſe Authority they acquir'd ſo great a Reputation, that 2000 Perſons have been there

in

in one Day, to drink or divert themſelves.

About 30 Years ſince, many of the Inhabitants of *London*, whoſe Buſineſs or Poverty obſtructed their going to *Epſom*, had the Waters ſent to them.

Thus the Ice being broke, others brought great quantities to Town, which they ſold as well to Sick Perſons as Apothecaries, and continue ſtill to do ſo.

No wonder then that ſo few ſick People go to theſe Waters, 'tis not that the Modern Phyſicians eſteem them leſs, but becauſe the Numbers of ſuch as Drink at home, and at other Wells of the ſame Nature, do every Day mightily encreaſe.

For a few Years after the Diſcovery of the *Epſom-Waters* was publiſh'd, others of the ſame ſort (found out by Enquiry or Chance) grew into tolerable Repute and Uſe. The Names of the Principal are,

Barnet	in	*Hertfordſhire.*
North-Hall		*Hertfordſhire.*
Acton		*Middleſex.*
Cobham		*Surrey.*
Dullidge		*Surrey.*
Strettham		*Kent.*

Beſides theſe, the Curious and Inquiſitive may diſcover very many more to us unknown, eſpecially if they take along with

them this Direction, that ſweet Waters generally ariſe from the tops of Hills, but theſe from the Bottoms.

CHAP. II.

Of the Nature of the Bitter Purging Waters.

THeſe Waters have no taſte, but a moderate bitterneſs, which is very ſenſible.

Some that have Travelled into *Syria* and *Egypt*, mention bitter Waters in thoſe Countries; and St. *James*, in his Epiſtle, takes notice of ſweet and bitter Waters, as very common things in the Eaſtern Parts; all which bitter Waters, 'tis probable, are of this ſort.

Theſe Fountains are not of an equal Strength nor Vertue, but ſome are much ſtronger than others; with the ſtrongeſt *Dullidge* is juſtly reckon'd with the gentler *Epſom*.

Theſe Waters in their Springs are without ſmell, but kept ſome Days or Weeks in Veſſels cloſe ſtopp'd, they putrifie and ſtink, eſpecially in Summer time; which will happen to all Waters, and ſometimes alſo to the cleareſt Spring Water, as we

are

are told by those that Sail near the Equator.

Pour a little of this Water to Sirrup of Violets, and 'twill remain blue and unchang'd, as if 'twere mix'd with common Spring-water.

By the adding Lime water, it gives a whitish Muddy colour, as if some drops of Milk were mix'd with it, and the white parts will, in about an hours time, subside in the form of a cloudy curdling, produc'd from the Union of the chalky Lexivial, and the acidity of the Cathartick Salts.

All these Waters will curdle Milk, if it be added to them when they are hot, or boiling, but not at all if mix'd when they are cold.

The Waters of any of these Wells, evaporated in a glazed Earthen, or any other proper Vessel, will yield a kind of a Cream a top, and a sediment at the bottom of the Vessel, of both together, 6, 8, or 10 Drams from a Gallon.

This Cream is of an Ash colour, Stony substance, and resembles Plaister, but certainly not at all Lixivial, for every one knows that the *Lapis Calcarius*, or Lime-Stone, calcin'd, altho' actually cold, will grow very hot by pouring Water upon them, and emit a very great and thick fume,

fume, and that apply'd to any part of the Body 'twill burn. Therefore Chirurgeons uſe it for a Potential Cautery; but the fore-mentioned Cream calcin'd in a Crucible, and Water pour'd upon it, cauſes neither ſmoak nor heat, nor does it acquire any the leaſt Pungency.

Sometimes, as in *Aſton-Waters*, the thin Minute Particles of which it conſiſts will be very reſplendent and brittle, and wholly inſipid, tho' Calcin'd as aforeſaid, yet by the pouring on any acid Liquor, chiefly by Spirit of Nitre, an Ebullition, with a ſenſible heat, will be excited.

The leſſer part of this Sediment is like in ſubſtance to the before-deſcrib'd Cream; the remainder is purely Saline, but compounded of two kinds of Salts, one a Muriatick or Sea-Salt, the other a Salt proper or ſpecial to theſe Waters, whoſe Nature and Vertues I here deſign to treat of.

In *Epſom-Waters*, the Muriatick Salt is about the 20th part of the whole Saline Compoſition; it is ſomething more in *Dullidge*, and in moſt of the fore-mentioned Springs.

In its biting Taſt, as well as in the Figure of its Chryſtals, 'tis not unlike Common Salt; whence it is that Waters, in which there is leſs of this Muriatick Salt, purge not ſo ſtrongly as others. The

The other Salt, as we have ſaid before, is the proper, or peculiar Salt of the Purging Waters; 'tis made after the ſame manner as all Lixivial Salts, *viz.* by Evaporating, Filtring, and Chryſtalizing, Calcination only excepted. In this Preparation, the Earthy or Plaiſtery part is firſt to be ſeparated from the Saline; then the Muriatick Salt, and a yellow and thick Liquor from the proper Salt of the Waters.

CHAP. III.

Of the Nature of the Bitter Salt, peculiar to the Purging Waters.

THis Salt, if it be rightly prepar'd, is of a delicate whiteneſs equal to new fall'n Snow.

This bitter Salt is much more evident in the Salt it ſelf, in a dry Form, than in the Water, and ſmites the Tongue with a very penetrating Pungency, but without any Acrimony.

If you diſſolve a Dram of this Salt in a Pint of Common Water, which is its Natural proportion, 'twill have the ſame property of curdling Milk, and be ennobled with the ſame bitter Taſt and Purging Vertue peculiar to its Mineral Water.

And therefore 'tis not improperly diſtinguiſh'd

ſtinguiſh'd from the *Sal Mirabilis*, (made of Oil of Vitriol, and Common Salt) and from all other Salts, by the Name of the *Bitter Purging Salt*.

This bitter Purging Salt, from the different manner of evaporating its Water, or degree of Cold, to which 'tis afterwards expoſed, and other circumſtances, will ſhoot into Cryſtals of a greater or leſſer Magnitude. But let the Dimenſions be what they will, the Figure is the ſame; for moſt of their Cryſtals, if they ſhoot not too thick, are ſmall rectangular Priſms, with four parallel ſides; the two oppoſite ſides ſomething flatter than the other. Sometimes they have two more ſides, and are Sexangular; but theſe are ſo ſmall that the naked Eye can hardly diſcover 'em.

Their length is about half an Inch, but their thickneſs not above a fifth, ſixth or ſeventh part of their length; their Baſis, a lump of the ſame; the Summit very different, having ſometimes three, but for the moſt part four ſloping Plains, and with the fore-mention'd parallel ſides make obtuſe Angles, or pointed, or oftener ſharpned, like a Pen Knife: One of the ſloping Plains is generally bigger than the other three taken together, and of a

Pentangular

Pentangular or Sexangular Figure; the oppoſite to this Quadrangular or Pentangular; the other two Triangular and leſs; the laſt, ſometimes inviſible, without a Microſcope.

Theſe Criſtals, in their Oblong Figure, do moſt reſemble Salt-Petre; in their Rectangular they come neareſt to Sea-Salt.

This bitter Salt, diſſolv'd in common Water, and ſtanding ſome Days in a Glaſs Veſſel, ſhoots into Branches like little Trees round the ſides of the Glaſs: To the producing this Figure, the before-deſcrib'd Criſtals of this Salt and of *Sal Nitre* (the points of which are terminated ſometimes into Right, ſometimes into Acute Angles) are very proper; the ſloping Plain of one Criſtal joyning to the parallel Plain of the others. Which I have alſo demonſtrated to be done in the Generation of Leaves, by the Figure of their proper Salts. *Plant. Ang.* 9. lib. 4. p. 1. c. *ult.*

Where note by the way, That in that Diſcourſe I have ſet down the Figures of *Sal Nitri* and other Salts, not altogether as they appear to us, but, probably, as they do exiſt in the Plants themſelves.

Five Drams of this bitter Purging Salt, mixt in a Vial with half an Ounce of common

common Water, and ſhaken together, by that Agitation only, and the gentle Heat of the Hand in Winter, will all preſently diſſolve, except a few Grains; by which you obſerve it to be more diſſolvable than any other Salt.

'Tis diſtinguiſh'd alſo by its Specifick Gravity from all other Salts; 'tis heavier than Allom, lighter than common Salt, and than Nitre, as we ſhall hereafter prove in the fifth *Chapter*.

A diſſolution of this Salt, and Salt of Tartar, and any other Urinous or Lixivial Salt, will generate a white Coagulum, or a Nuetral Salt, of the taſte of neither, but ſomething Styptick.

Strong and new Oil of Vitriol, poured upon this Salt, will cauſe a moderate Ebullition; from whence we may conclude it to be of an Alkaline Principle, and in ſome manner Lixivial.

But if you add any other Liquor that I know of, either Acid or Alkali, to this Salt, 'twill neither ferment nor grow hot.

This Salt in a Crucible, with a ſtrong fire, will melt and ſwell like Allom into a white Porous and boiling Calx.

But this Calx will (except about a 40th part of the whole) diſſolve in a ſufficient quantity of common Water, which the

Lapis

Lapis Calcarius, or Lime-Stone, will not.

This Calx, in a Crucible, with a vehement fire for an hour, will be as hard as Alabaſter, nor will it afterwards be ſoftned by the Air: Much otherwiſe 'tis with the Lime-Stone, which Calcin'd, and expos'd to the Air, falls to Powder.

Altho' by this Calcination it loſes ſome part of its weight, yet its bitterneſs continues, and is rather increas'd.

The Calx of the bitter Purging Salt, by the affuſion of Spirit of Salt, or any other Acid, will preſently ferment, which is more or leſs conſpicuous according to the ſtrength of the aforeſaid Spirit; from whence alſo we may allow it to be in ſome ſort Lixivial.

From a Pound of this Salt Diſtill'd in a Glaſs Retort well Luted, with a Reverberatory Fire, you'll have in the Receiver a little above half a pound of an Acid Spirit in ſmell and taſt, every way equal to common Spirit of Salt.

Oil of Vitriol pour'd upon common Spirit of Salt, yields a dark and ſmoaky Vapour, which will likewiſe happen, if you drop the ſame Oil very ſtrong into the Spirit of the Purging Salt.

'Tis very well known, that all the Chalybeate

beate Waters will change to a Purple, by the addition of Galls, as will White-wine Vinegar, tho' more obscurely; but the infusion of Galls will be in no wise alter'd by the Spirit of the Purging Salt, tho' an Acid, nor by the Spirit of ♄, or Oil of Vitriol, from whence, as well as many other ways, the different Nature of these, and other Acids, may be shown.

I took 8 Glass Bottles of River-Water, and with some drops of Sirrup of Violets colour'd them all blue alike; one of which I let stand without any thing else added to it. To a 2d I put a little *Sal Nitri*; to a third some of the bitter Purging Salt; to a fourth a little Lime-Water; to the fifth a dissolution of the Calx of the Purging Salt; to the sixth an infusion of white Tartar; to the seventh the Distill'd Spirit of the Purging Salt; to the last, a little of both Lime-Water and the Purging Salt.

In the three first, the Cerulous colour remain'd only a little faded.

In the 4th and 5th, the Cerulous colour was converted to a manifest Green; in the former turbid and paler, in the latter like a Smarag'd, very deep and clear.

In the 6th and 7th it turn'd purple; in the first obscure, but the latter was like a true Amethyst.

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The green colour, in the 4th and 5th, vaniſh'd in about 3 hours, but the 5th was much deeper, and more durable.

From this manifold Experiment we may obſerve, that as Nitre, although by accenſion it will yield a fix'd Lixivial Salt, and by Diſtillation an Acid Spirit, yet has neither a Lixivial, nor Acid taſt, therefore gives neither green nor purple colour to the Sirrup; ſo we may conclude the *Purging bitter Salt* to conſiſt of like principles, that is not ſolely Acid, but alſo Alkalious, and a little Lixivial.

But it may be evidently demonſtrated, that its principles do partake of both, by the acidity of its Spirit, and the green colour; its Calx gives Sirrup of Violets like *Aqua Calcis*, and other Lixivial Liquors.

In the laſt Bottle the colour was deeper and more durable, by the combination or union of the twofold Alkalious Salt, the bitter Purging Salt, and the Calcarious, as Ink is made by the union of two Aſtringents.

And 'tis very plain, that the exiſtence of theſe Salts, and their efficacy in altering Colours, depends not on the fire, becauſe the infuſion of white Tartar will, like the Spirit of the Purging Salt, die the Sirrup of a purple colour.

Lastly, Take notice that I call the Alkaline Principle in this Purging Salt potentially, and after a sort Lixivial.

For, as we have observ'd in this Chapter, you can perceive no Lixivial taste even in the Calx of this Salt, which does not hinder, but that an Alkaline Principle may be in this Salt, as appears from the fore cited Experiments, tho' it has never endured the fire, but after Calcination it is prov'd to be I know not how Lixivial.

I call it Lixivial, tho' that, nor any other Name in Use that I know of, is justly adapted to its Nature, for there is a want of proper Words to express our meanings in nothing so much as in Philosophy, such as should lead us through the Footsteps of Nature, and Intelligibly express its admirable variety.

CHAP. IV.

Of the difference between the bitter Purging Salt, Allom, and the Muriatick Salt.

FRom the fore-cited Experiments, and those we shall now mention rightly understood and compar'd, 'twill evidently appear that the Purging bitter Salt, tho' it may have some Qualities common to other Salts, does differ in its Nature and Species from all other Salts. Very

Very many have confidently affirm'd it to proceed from an Aluminous *Minera*, but inconsiderately, for from whence is it they prove it, but becauſe they coagulate Milk, which is no reaſon at all, for by the ſame ridiculous Argument, Vinegar, Wine, Beer, and whatever curdles Milk, muſt be Aluminous.

Nor does it appear from hence, that like Allom, when melting, it ſwells and riſes in bubbles, for Borax melted will have the ſame Elevation, but Borax does not curdle Milk, therefore is not Aluminous, nor from thence can the bitter Purging Salt be ſo.

Moreover, from an Ounce of Allom calcin'd half an hour in a Crucible, there will remain half an Ounce of Calx. To this pour a ſufficient quantity of common Water to diſſolve the Saline parts, and there will remain about 52 Grains of an inſipid and ſimple Earth at the bottom of the Veſſel, which is ſix times as much as the like qnantity of the Calx of the bitter Salt will leave behind it.

Nor is the Spirit of Allom Diſtill'd with a ſtrong Fire any thing like the Spirit of this Salt, for the firſt has a greater acrimony, and much leſs grateful taſt; and which is worth Obſervation, a Fetid

ſmell very like to the Spirit or Gaſs of Sulphure.

The taſt likewiſe of this bitter Purging Salt and Allom is ſo different, that nothing can be more; for that of Allom is auſtere and has no bitterneſs, the other no manner of auſterity but wholly bitter.

Beſides, they are evidently diſtinguiſh'd by their Natural Figures for the Chryſtals of Allom, the Factitious at leaſt conſidering its Altitude are ſomething flattiſh, and conſiſts of 8 Planes; two, *viz.* thoſe at top and bottom, Sexangular and Parallel: The greater and leſs ſides of theſe Planes are ſo placed alternately, that the 3 greater anſwer to the 3 leſs. About theſe are plac'd 6 Quadrangular Planes with unequal ſides and angles, the greater bending towards the Centre of the Chryſtal, and the leſs accordingly

How very unlike this is to the before-deſcrib'd Figure of the Purging Salt, may eaſily appear by compariſon.

Nor can this bitter Purging Salt with more Juſtice be reckon'd amongſt the Muriatick or common Salts, which well purify'd has a very different taſt from the Purging Salt, and alſo from Allom; its Figure is likewiſe as different, for it ſhoots not long ways, but contracted almoſt in the form of a Cube.

Beſides,

Beſides, the Purging Salt calcin'd in a Crucible, with a ſtrong Fire, emits no viſible vapour, nor loſes more than half of its weight; but common Salt thus calcin'd, as 'tis much more fluid, ſo it aſcends in thick ſmoaky vapours, leaving ſcarce an 18th part of the whole in the Crucible.

Neither (which may ſeem ſtrange) does the Spirit of common Salt Diſtill'd, as the Spirit of the Purging Salt, coagulate Milk, unleſs added to it when 'tis Boiled.

To be certain of this, I try'd the following Experiment.

To a Pint of River Water, impregnated with a Dram of the bitter Purging Salt, and boiling, I threw in 3 or 4 Spoonfuls of Milk, and let it boil again; preſently the curdled Milk ſwam upon the Water.

It did the ſame with as much of the Spirit of the bitter Purging Salt.

Laſtly, Inſtead of the Spirit of the Purging Salt, I us'd the Spirit of common Salt, and that much ſtronger than the former Spirit, in the ſame proportion and method, but the Milk remained fluid in its Natural ſtate without any coagulation.

CHAP. V.

The difference of the bitter Purging Salt from Nitrous and Calcarious Salts.

NOR does this Salt differ leſs from all kinds of Nitrous Salts; from which, by its bitter taſt alone, its enough diſtinguiſh'd.

Nor leſs by its Figure, for the Chryſtals of Nitre ſhoot not into four corner'd Parallel Planes, but always into ſix; nor into right Angles, but obtuſe, and their tops ſeldom terminate in 4 ſloping Planes, but moſtly in 2, and ſometimes in 6, and thoſe more equal than in the Purging bitter Salt.

The Purging bitter Salt thrown into the Fire is not at all inflamable, but Nitre burns with a bright flame and roaring noiſe, till the moſt part of it evaporates.

I have ſaid the moſt part of it, nor do I retract my aſſertion, for in the 3d Chapter we have obſerv'd about a 20th part to remain after the deflagration, which is in no wiſe Nitrous, but Lixivial, from Wood-Aſhes mix'd with it by the Nitre-Makers.

But further, the bitter Salt in a Spoon, held over the flame of a Candle, will melt in

in a moment, and bubble up as if thrown in to the fire; but Nitre, with such a heat, will scarcely melt, but take up at least 8 times the space of the other, and emits a most resplendent flame.

On the contrary, tho' Nitre melts with difficulty, 'tis when melted much more fluid, for in a Crucible, in a strong fire, it boils not like Allom, or the bitter Salt, but flows like Rosin or melted Metals.

From Nitre melted in a Crucible arise thick Exhalations, which you never see from the bitter Salt, tho' in the strongest Fire.

Add likewise, that they differ from one another in their power of coagulating Milk.

For half a Dram of the Purging Salt, thrown into half a Pint of Milk, will turn it very gray; but Nitre mix'd after the same manner, tho' in much greater proportion, has no such effect.

The solubility of Nitre, as we have before prov'd, is two parts in three less than the Purging Salt, for half an Ounce of common Water will, in the Winter, by agitation and a warm hand, dissolve not above a Dram and half of Nitre.

Its gravity is likewise very different, which appears by the following Experiment.

I put Oil of Turpentine into a Cylindar to the height of 3 Fingers; I then put in two Ounces of the Purging Salt, which rais'd the Oil a Finger higher, but from an equal weight of depurated Nitre, the Oil was elevated not higher than 3 fourths of a Finger; therefore the bitter Purging Salt is a 4th part lighter than Nitre.

But Water impregnated with the Purging Salt occupies a leſs ſpace, its bulk conſidered, than the ſame quantity with as much *Sal Nitri* diſſolved in it.

That is, Water inſtead of Oil mix'd with the Salts in a Vial; when they are diſſolv'd, the former ſubſides lower than the latter.

Laſtly, I Diſtill'd *Dantzick Vitriol*, *Sal Armoniack*, and a like quantity of the bitter Salt, inſtead of Nitre, in order to make the *Aqua Regia*. Now if this had been a Nitrous Salt, this Water wou'd, like *Aqua Regia*, have diſſolv'd Gold, but we could find no ſuch power in this Water.

Nor is it the Nitre of the Ancients, for 'tis nothing like that of the *Ægyptians* ſo often mention'd by *Hypocrates*; ſomething like which is deſcrib'd by *Dioſcorides* and *Pliny* to be of a purp'e colour and biting; nor that of *Etius*, like Earth calcin'd and quench'd with Wine.

Nor,

Nor, laſtly, can it be reckon'd with the *Sal Calcarius*; for the Purging Salt, or Water only, coagulates Milk with a much harder Curd, and greater plenty of Serum, than the Lime Water will.

And, if that Power of Coagulation were equal, how many Liquors have we mention'd that curdle Milk, which are neither Calcarious nor Aluminous.

Spirit of Nitre, dropt into the Cream that ſwims atop of the Lime-Water, or upon Lime it ſelf, will cauſe a viſible Ebullition; but the ſame Spirit will have no ſuch Effect upon the Purging Salt.

There can be no where more difference in the taſte of Things, than between the Purging Salt and the Calcarious; for the one is Lixivial and Sweet; the other, as it were Cold and Bitter.

Lime will, by pouring a little Water upon it, preſently fall to Powder. On the contrary, the Calx of the Purging Salt powder'd, will, by the ſame means, run immediately into a hard Subſtance, and in a few Moments be like a Stone.

Lamb's-Conduit Water, mixt with Lime-Water, will in a very little time grow white, with a dark clowdy Curdling; as it will with the Purging Waters:

ters: But, if you mix it with Water impregnated with the Calx of the Purging Salt, no Muddineſs nor Colour will follow.

Common Water impregnated with this Salt, and afterwards evaporated, will reſtore you the whole quantity you diſſolv'd, without any waſte; but Lime-Water evaporated, the Salt is for the moſt part tranſmuted into a ſtony and taſtleſs Subſtance: The Cauſe of which is, that the Saline Parts of the *Aqu. Calcis* do ſo intimately imbrace and unite with any other Aerial Salt, that they make a third Nurtral Salt; as in Oil of Aniſſeeds and Vitriol, ſhaken together, you have a Reſine, properly ſo call'd, which, if you waſh, will yield you no manner of taſte.

This may be illuſtrated by the following Experiment. I kept Lime-Water in a Glaſs cloſe ſtopt with a Cork, and as much in an open Veſſel, for a Week or longer; that in the ſtopt Vial had no Cream upon it; but that in the open Veſſel where the Air could freely arrive at the Water, was cover'd with an inſipid and ſtony Cream.

But Water, in which the Purging Salt is diſſolv'd, kept in an open Veſſel, and many

many Days expos'd to the Air, will have no Cream at all on its ſurface: And that which appears in boiling the Purging Waters, is not in the leaſt Calcarious, as we have formerly prov'd.

Add alſo the very different ſolubility of theſe Salts; for half an Ounce of the Bitter Purging Salt will be eaſily, and without Heat or much Agitation preſently diſſolv'd in ſix times its quantity of Water. But to the diſſolution of ſo much of the Calcarious Salt, is required two Gallons and a half of Water, which is 640 times its weight. For ſo much common Water is neceſſary to edulcorate an Ounce of *Calx Vivens*; which done, there remains in the bottom of the Veſſel about half an Ounce of pure white and Inſipid Calx.

But the Bitter Purging Salt is eminently diſtinguiſh'd from the fore-mention'd (if there were no other way) by its Medicinal Virtues, as we ſhall evidently demonſtrate, in the latter Part of this Tract, where we ſpeak of its Uſe.

In the mean time, we do not deny a ſmall Portion, as well of Nitre and common Salt, as of a ſtony Subſtance, may be contained, not only in the Purging Waters, but even in the Salt it ſelf. And, indeed,

indeed, 'tis probable that no Body, existent in Nature, is purely simple. Silver, every one knows, is mixt with Copper or Lead; Gold, with Silver in the same Mine Vein; nay, and Metallick Mass: But it does not follow, that Silver and Copper, or Gold and Silver, do hereby constitute a third Species; but the two, or more, separable Metals exist together.

Nor, can we inferr an Identity of Bodies from their agreement in some qualities; for Lead and Gold do so agree; both are solid, opacque, ductile, fusible, heavy Bodies, *&c.* and therefore are both Metals; but nothing is Gold, that has not all the qualities of Gold.

For Gold does not differ more ways, nor in a more eminent manner from Lead, than the Bitter Purging Salt is distinguish'd from all other Salts; and therefore is in its own Nature the most Noble.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Some additional Obſervations of the Nature of the Bitter Purging Salt.

THE moſt ſpecial Qualities of this Salt, that we have already deſcrib'd, are a taſte gently and almoſt ſimply Bitter; and of all ſorts, that we know, moſt reſembling the Cryſtals of Silver in ſimilitude of Taſte. For theſe, indeed, are bitter, but very much ſo, and not without ſome Auſterity joined with it.

I have in another place obſerv'd the *Lapis Calaminaris* to have ſome Qualities common with Silver, therefore I dropp'd into the Powder of this Stone ſome drops of Spirit of Nitre; and the fermentation over, I waſh'd the mixture with common Water. This Water, like the Chryſtals of Silver, is not only very ſtyptick but bitter, and is the only bitter Mineral that I know of, except the Salt of *Luna*, and the Purging Salt. But whether the Purging Salt do ariſe from any Silver Minera, wholly or in part ſo, or from the *Lapis Calaminaris*, or rather from any other, I leave undetermined, being never able to get any of the true Minera of this Salt.

But

But this is very plain from the forementioned Experiments, that the Bitter Purging Salt is compounded of ſome parts in their nature Acid, and others Alkaline, and a little Lixivial.

In Salts compounded of various Principles, the Proportion, the Nature and the Union of thoſe Principles are to be conſider'd.

Some Acid Particles are frequently found in Lixivial Salts, but in a ſmall proportion.

But in Tartar, which is the Salt of Wine, the Saline Parts are much leſſer than the Acid, which exiſt in a much greater proportion.

And 'tis almoſt the ſame in the Bitter Purging Salt, with this difference only, That in the former the Acids are actually mix'd with the Alkaline, but in the latter Potentially.

Moreover, all Lixivial Salts are Acrimonious, but thoſe commonly call'd Teſtaceous are not without reaſon accounted the more gentle.

As likewiſe are ſome Acid Liquors, ſuch as the Juice of Wood-Sorrel, a Diſſolution of the Cream of Tartar, &c. but the Purging Salt is gentler than any of theſe.

Indeed,

Indeed, by Diſtillation it gives an Acid Spirit, but this Acid Taſte is not perceptible till its Principles are intimately diſſolv'd and divided by a moſt violent Fire.

For the Salt it ſelf has neither Acrimony nor Acidity.

Nor is it Taſtleſs, but very ſubtle and biting, and therefore a moſt Efficacious Medicine.

Its Admirable Subtilty will appear by its penetrating any Earthen Veſſel, if not very well Glaz'd about the bottom; of which, on the outſide, there will be a woolly or hoary Concretion in colour like an Amethyſt.

The Principles of this Salt are alſo more cloſely united than in Tartar, and afford many other Remedies. For the Union is ſo firm, that one of its parts, *viz.* its Acid, cannot be above the one half of it ſeparated from the other, and that not without a reverberatory Fire. Whence 'tis, that when other gentle Purges frequently elude the Phyſicians expectation, this does very ſeldom or never deceive him.

For ſuch Medicines do work moſt upon the Humours of the Body, which are leaſt alterable by thoſe Humours: In the

the number of which this Salt, and other Minerals, are to be accounted.

Last of all; This Salt, tho' it does consist of different Principles, is very pure, if rightly and diligently prepar'd; insomuch that it does not retain the thousandth part of any extraneous Body with it self.

For, if you evaporate destill'd Water, impregnated with an Ounce of this Salt, 'twill yield not a Particle of any Heterogeneous Salt, stony Sediment, or Cremor, but the very same Ounce of most pure Salt.

The End of the First Part.

Part

Part the Second.

OF THE USE OF THE Bitter Purging Salt.

CHAP. I.

Of the more General Uſe of the Bitter Purging Salt.

THE Uſe of the Purging Waters of *Epſom*, &c. is ſo excellent and manifold, and ſo very well known to *London* Phyſicians, that no Body can doubt of it.

For in many grievous Diſeaſes, Experience has prov'd 'em a moſt efficacious Remedy, endued with no unwholſom Quality; which, rationally preſcrib'd, I

never knew attended with any unexpected ill Effect.

One Objection there is brought againſt theſe Waters, with ſome ſhew of Reaſon; 'tis, That the Waters in boiling ſeparate a ſtony Cremor: From whence we may fear a Matter may be ſupply'd, fit to generate the Stone in the Body.

This Objection is anſwer'd by two Experiments; one before-mention'd; and the Second drawn from Phyſical Obſervations. For 'tis plain, from what we have before prov'd, That this ſtony Cremor does not ariſe upon the Purging Waters, nor upon *Aqua Calcis*, unleſs expos'd to the Air, and in an open Veſſel; and therefore no ſtony Subſtance can be generated by the Waters in the Body.

But, ſay they, the Air is mixt with the Humours of the Body. We grant it; and likewiſe with Waters; as may be demonſtrated by the Air Pump. But Waters cannot petrifie without the free and open influx of the Air. Add likewiſe, That the Air cannot enter the Body, but as it were through a Strainer.

Secondly, Practice contradicts this, for 'tis notoriouſly known, not only to me, but to many other Phyſicians, That after drinking theſe Purging Waters plentifully,

ly, by intervals, for 20 or 30 Years together, Perſons have been always free from the Gout or Stone in the Kidneys or Bladder, and enjoy'd a perfect Health. And the fore-mention'd Lord *North*, who drank both *Epſom* and *Barnet* Waters, liv'd free from thoſe Diſtempers to 85 Years of Age.

And this Lime-Water, which ſo ſuddenly produces a ſtony Subſtance by the admiſſion of the Air, is frequently and ſafely given by Phyſicians. And our Sugar-Refiners uſe it in the purifying their Sugar; by which means the Treacle is better ſeparated from the concreſcible part; and it acquires a greater fineneſs and whiteneſs.

But, if the Purging Water is a good Medicine, how much more is the Salt to be accounted ſo? For, if we ſhould, for Arguments ſake, grant what is objected againſt the Waters; yet that will make not at all againſt the Salt, depurated from its ſtony Subſtance.

Moreover, if the Water you take do abound with plenty of the Muriatick Salt, ſometimes it may Purge too violently; but the purified Salt, which is freed from it, is of all Purging Medicines the moſt gentle.

'Tis likewiſe totally free from the Malignant Quality of moſt Catharticks; it does never violently agitate the Humours, nor cauſe Sickneſs, Faintings, or Pains in the Bowels. It never fails a Phyſicians deſign in Purging the Patient; nor ever puts him in fear of a *Hypercatharſis*.

Beſides, the ſtrength of the Waters is not at all times alike; for 'tis either encreas'd by a dry Seaſon, or diminiſh'd by a wet; 'tis ſtronger in Summer, weaker in Winter; and 'tis common for thoſe that ſell them, upon occaſion, to mix 'em with common Water: From whence the Phyſician, preſcribing the uſual Doſe, frequently fails of ſucceſs. But the Salt of this Water, purely and rightly prepar'd, is every Particle alike, and endued with the ſame Purging Virtue.

Add to this, That the *London* Phyſicians do not preſcribe the Waters crude, but, for the moſt part, boiled: For taken this way, the Doſe being leſſen'd, and the Strength increas'd, they ſlip eaſier through the Stomach and Guts. In Summer you boil to the conſumption of a third, but in Winter to half the quantity; which will require two or three Hours. But the Purging Salt of the Water, diſſolv'd in any convenient Liquor, and once boil'd,

boil'd, is a Medicine always in a readineſs; accommodated to Apothecaries, chiefly to ſick Perſons, who, in urgent Caſes, ſuffer much Pain and Uneaſineſs while the Waters are ſo long a boiling, and may often times be in danger.

The laſt, tho' not the leaſt, conſiderable is, That the Water kept a little too long, eſpecially in Summer or hot Weather, will ſtink; but the Salt of this Water, neither Age nor Place can corrupt.

But ſome, I foreſee, will Queſtion the wholſomneſs of this Salt, from the Acid Spirit it yields in Diſtillation; but this Objection does as much oppoſe the Uſe of the Water, as of the Salt contained in them: For the ſame Reaſon, we may as well pretend to leave off the Uſe of Honey, Sugar, or White-Bread; every one of which, by the help of Fire, will yield a Diſtill'd Spirit violently Acid and Biting.

Wine alſo, and the wholſomeſt Food, when its Principles are let looſe by Fermentation, or any other way, do obtain Noxious, and ſometimes Poyſonous Qualities. Nay, even the Food of Infants, their Mothers Milk, will in a warm place preſently turn Acid; but by diſſolving the

Purging Salt in a proper Vehicle, its Principles are neither deprav'd nor divided, but 'tis given in its compact Body, or united Eſſence, as we are fed with the forementioned Eatables. For as the Salt it ſelf, ſo alſo the Water we drink, from which this Salt is prepar'd, is ſenſibly, tho' moderately bitter, and without any mixture of Acidity.

CHAP. II.

Of the Method of preſcribing the Bitter Purging Salt.

THis Salt may be taken Diſſolv'd in any Vehicle agreeable to the Palate, or grateful to the Taſte of the Patient; ſuch as Spring-Waters, Barley-Water, Water-Gruel, Poſſet-Drink, Whey, *&c.* I do moſt commonly preſcribe common Water Boil'd, and Aromatiz'd with a little Mace, to two, three, or four Pints; of which I add half an Ounce, or an Ounce, or a greater Doſe of the Salt. As for Example:

Take of Spring-Water two Quarts, Mace a Dram, boil a little and ſtrain it;

it; then diſſolve in the ſtrain'd Liquor an Ounce or 10 Drams of the Salt for an Apozem, to be taken in the Morning in the ſpace of two hours, hot, warm, and ſometimes cold, with a little Exerciſe.

This Apozem you may give by it ſelf, or during the Working of other Purging Phyſick. It is proper alſo, when there is occaſion, to add *Senna*, *Manna*, or both, to the Mace, to promote the efficacy of the Salt, in this or the like Form:

Take Spring-Water four Pints, Mace a Dram, Senna three Drams, boil them gently, and add of the Bitter Purging Salt an Ounce, Flakey-Manna an Ounce and half, or two Ounces, and ſtrain it.

The Lord *Dudley North* was the firſt that drank the Purging-Waters with Milk, which did not at all agree with his Stomach, becauſe he mix'd them cold; but Phyſicians afterwards altered the Waters, by adding Milk when they were boiling, which way, if you pleaſe, you may alſo moſt ſafely take the Salt it ſelf. For Example:

Take of the Salt an Ounce or 10 Drams, diſſolve it in 3 Pints and half, or 4, of common Water, and when it boils pour in half a Pint of Milk, and ſtrain the Curd from it.

In the Summer, when Medicinal Waters are every where frequented, the Chalybeate, or the Purging-Waters, taken immediately from their Springs, is the beſt Vehicle.

A Dram, or a Dram and half of this Salt, taken in 3 or 4 of the firſt Glaſſes of *Tunbridge*, or any other Chalybeate Water, for the three or four firſt days, will render the Humours and firſt Paſſages better prepared for the deſign of Drinking.

Chalybeate Waters do frequently bind, which will be prevented by a ſmall quantity of this Salt diſſolv'd in the firſt and laſt Glaſs.

But 'tis beſt of all taken in its own Waters, for a Dram of it, diſſolv'd in every Draught, does Purge with more certainty and a leſs quantity of Water, and by conſequence is leſs burdenſom to the Stomach; 'tis ſometimes alſo very proper in Gliſters, to mix 3 or 4 Drams of it inſtead of *Sal Gem.*

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of the more particular Uſe of this Salt, and firſt of all of its Uſe in Diſeaſes of the Ventricle.

WHat I ſhall now inſert of the Purging-Waters and their Salt, is not from uncertain conjectures, but is demonſtrable by the daily Experience of other Learned Men as well as my own; all whom have us'd both the Salt and the Water, in the following Diſeaſes, with happy ſucceſs.

And firſt of all, this Purging-Water, or its Salt, is a moſt Amicable Medicine to the Stomach, exciting an Appetite, and promoting a good Digeſtion; which it does partly by its Acid Principle, partly by the bitterneſs of the whole, or its Alkaline Mixture.

But chiefly from the former, becauſe it affords a Spirit in ſome ſort Analagous to the Spirit of the Salt, with which all Meats are ſeaſon'd; and alſo from the latter, for we do every day Experience the Stomach to be ſtrengthned by this, and moſt other Bitters. 'Tis alſo well known, that the

Ap-

Appetite is chiefly ſtrengthned by the Uſe of Compound Salts, for almoſt all Pickles are prepar'd not with Salts alone, but with Salt and Vinegar. French Red-Wine we allow to be very wholſom with our Food, becauſe of its Tartarous Salt, of all others, the moſt Compound; and Salt of Steel, a very Compound Salt, is as Famous among Stomach-Medicines.

The two Univerſal Digeſtives, Bread and Spittle, do one of them contain an Acid, and the other an Alkaline Salt, and mix'd ſupply the place of a Compound Salt.

And the Natural ferment of the Stomach conſiſts of Acid and Alkaline Particles; the firſt from the Arteries, or the Blood, the latter from the Nerves, or the Excrement of the Animal Spirits, which may be prov'd by very many Arguments not here to be inſiſted upon.

Therefore while there is the Natural proportion of either Salt in the Stomach, Concoction is duly performed, but when either prevail, ſometimes the Acid, ſometimes the Alkaline, are neceſſary to reſtore it to its Office.

When the Concoction of the Stomach is Vitiated by too much, or improper Meat and Drink, Vomiting often follows; for

for the quieting which, the Bitter Purging Salt, or Waters, is a moſt excellent Remedy, for the ſame reaſon that the Salt of Wormwood, and Juice of Lemons, is ſo Famous, tho' this Salt is highly preferrable to it, with one ſtroke deſtroying and carrying off the Peccant Salts.

Alſo in the *Cardialgia*, or Heart-burning, and other pains of that kind, no Medicines can be more ſafe and efficacious, nor in a hot Hypocondriack Diſpoſition.

In the fore-mentioned Caſes, I have ſometimes preſcribed the Purging Waters, or Salt, without any other Medicine, but more often with the aſſiſtance of other Remedies, as Bleeding, Vomiting, and the like; for 'tis not the part of a prudent Phyſician, in dangerous Diſeaſes, to truſt his Patients Health, and his own Reputation, to one only Medicine, tho' never ſo Famous.

Remedies of this kind may be infinitely varied according to the Indications. Some Forms of which I ſhall here add.

For a loſt Appetite.

Take of *Spaw*, or any other Chalybeate-Water, or if not to be had, Spring-Water Aromatiz'd with Mace, a Quart, or three Pints,

Pints, of the *Bitter Salt* half an Ounce ſix Drams, or an Ounce; drink it warm and faſting. And all ſorts of Chalybeate-Waters may be drank warm, which is better, and without the loſs of its ſubtile Spirit, by dipping a Bottle cloſe ſtopt into hot Water for a few Moments, and after pouring out a Glaſs, ſtopping it as before. While you take theſe Waters an hour before Dinner, take alſo 20, 30, or 40 drops of *Elixir Proprietatis*, in a Spoonful of Sherry or Hock, and Wormwood, and continue their Uſe every Day, or every other Day, for four, five, or ſix times. Or,

Take of the Conſerve of *Roman* Wormwood two Ounces, Garden-Scurvy-Graſs an Ounce, Candid-Ginger half an Ounce, Aromatick-Powder of Cloves a Dram and half, of Winters Bark, of the true Salt of Wormwood, of each a Dram; with Sirrup of Cloves make an Electuary, and take the quantity of a Nutmeg every Night going to Reſt; and of a ſmall Wall-Nut every Day an hour before Dinner, with a little Wormwood-Wine, if the Patient be not ſubject to the Head-Ach.

Or,

Or, Take of the Filings of Steel new and ſhining 3 Ounces, *Roman* Wormwood half a handful, *Roman* Cypreſs-Roots, *Calamus Aromaticus*, of each a Dram, Galangall the leſs; Cinnamon and Saffron, of each half a Dram, White-Wine or Sherry a Quart, digeſt in a Veſſel cloſe ſtopt, with a gentle heat, for 3 Days, ſhaking the Glaſs every Day, and take two or three, or four Spoonfuls, two hours before Dinner.

In Vomitings.

Take of any Chalybeate-Water, or Maced-Water, three or four Pints, and diſſolve in it ſix, eight, or ten Drams of the *Purging Salt*, to be drank in the Morning, hot or cold, as you pleaſe; and repeat it three or four Days following; or every other Day, if there be occaſion.

And to this joyn the Uſe of the following Pills.

Take of red Roſes, of Cinnamon, of each a Dram, Cloves, Salt of Steell, of each a Scruple, Saffron half a Scruple, Chimical Oil of Mint eight Drops, with Sirrup of Steell; make 24 Pills. Take three every Day two Hours before Dinner,

ner, and at Night going to reſt. Sometimes a Fomentation of red Wine, with *Venice* Treacle, red Roſes, and Mint infus'd in it hot, is very profitable.

In a Baſtard Collick.

Take Senna two Drams, Mace a Dram, boil in Spring Water to three or four Pints. Add to the ſtrain'd Liquor ſix, eight or ten Drams of the *Purging Salt*. Take this Apozem as there is occaſion, either with or without Senna, and by it ſelf, or with the following Pills.

Take of Stomach Pills with Gums 25 Grains, of Steell-Filings powder'd ten Grains, with Syrup of Steel; make four Pills, to be taken going to reſt, and the Apozem as above, the following Morning, and repeat 'em for three Days ſucceſſively, or longer. Sometimes 'tis neceſſary to mix Extract of *Gentian*, or ſome other Bitter with the Pills, and alſo a little *Laudanum*, if the Pain be violent.

In

In a hot Hypocondriack Diſtemper.

Take of any Chalybeate-Water three or four Pints, diſſolve in every draught half a Dram or a Dram to eight times, and drink it cold. Or, inſtead of Chalybeate-Waters, uſe ſimple Milk-Water, or diſtill'd from Borrage or Pimpernel.

In the Heart-Burning.

In this Diſeaſe the Salt, taken as in the former, will have very good ſucceſs.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Uſe of the Bitter Purging Salt in Diſeaſes of the Inteſtines and Parts adjacent: And firſt of the Collick.

IN this Diſeaſe there is no need to adviſe the Learned and Experienc'd Phyſician in the firſt place to let Blood, and ſeldom or never to omit it. Then 'tis moſt Adviſable to give this or the like Gliſter.

Take

Take of the common Decoction for Gliſters one pound, with the addition of 3 Drams, or half an Ounce of Senna; to the Ingredients to it ſtrain'd, add half an Ounce, or more, of the Bitter Purging Salt, Species of *Hiera Picra* a Dram and half, or two Drams, brown Sugar two Ounces. From the Uſe of theſe, and the like Gliſters, Chollick Pains are often diſſipated; at leaſt, by their paſſing up the Inteſtines, the way is opened.

Oftentimes Pill *Rudii* one Scruple, or half a Dram, with a Grain of *Laudanum*, is given with good ſucceſs. And ſometimes crude *Mercury*, if the Patient will ſwallow a ſufficient quantity; that is, four, five, or ſix Ounces: Eſpecially, if taken with two Ounces of the Tincture of *Hiera Picra* in White-Wine, or any other proper Purging Medicine. But the moſt Noble, of all Remedies, is the Purging Water, or the Salt taken in this, or the like manner.

Take of Spring or River Water, aromatiz'd *Lib. iij*, Chamomile Flower, or Mint-Water ſix Ounces, Bitter Purging

Purging Salt an Ounce, or ten Drams, Flakey-Manna an Ounce and half, or two Ounces; make an Apozem, and let the Patient take about 17 Ounces at a time, hot, ſo often that the whole may be taken in an hour, or an hour and half; yea, tho' ſome part of it be Vomited.

The force of this Medicine may be ſometimes increas'd by the addition of the following.

Take one or two Spoonfuls of the Tincture of *Hiera Picra*, before every draught of the Apozem.

In Worms.

This Salt, if the Nurſe give the Child a Dram and half, or two Drams, in its Pap, 'twill exterminate the Worms, eſpecially if the Phyſician will give before it, in any proper Vehicle, a Grain or two, or three, of *Mercurius Dulcis*, according to the Age of the Patient, or Chryſtals of Silver.

Or if the Purging Salt be given in Bitter Gliſters, in the Stone,

Here alſo, as well as in the Chollick, we muſt begin with Bleeding, which very often requires a repetition.

To this, a Vomit is properly added of the *Vinum Benedictum*, or Salt of Vitriol, eſpecially if the Patient has a *Nauſea*; by the force of which, the Stomach, generally the offending part, is not only Unloaded, but the whole Nervous Body continuous with the Kidnies, and in this caſe very much affected, is mightily reliev'd.

Then give the following Gliſter, eſpecially if no Stool ſucceeds the Vomit.

Take of Chamomile-Flowers a Handful, Seeds of Cummin, Sweet-Fennel, Parſley bruis'd, of each an Ounce; Marſhmallow-Roots, cut and bruis'd, two Ounces; boil theſe in common Water to a Pint, in the ſtrained Liquor diſſolve *Venice-Turpentine* an Ounce, the bitter Purging Salt half an Ounce, Syrup of *Althea* three Ounces.

If the pain encreaſes, add to the Gliſter 40 or 50 drops of *Laudanum.* Theſe, or the like Gliſters, will frequently bring away the Urine, either with, or without a Stone, or Stoney Matter, and the Pains vaniſh.

But if the pain continues ſtubborn, we muſt have recourſe to the following Apozem, as a moſt powerful Remedy.

Take of Barley-Water Maced 3 or 4 Pints, of the bitter Purging Salt 6 or 8 Drams, Syrup of *Althea* 3 or 4 Ounces, take this warm in an hour and halfs time, more or leſs, altho' the Patient does Vomit ſome part of it.

In heat of Urine.

The above-mentioned Apozem is effectual, whether it proceed from the Acrimony of the Blood, or from a Venereal taint.

In ſuppreſſion of Urine.

Which happens either without a Stone, or with ſo great a Stone as to ſtop the Urinary paſſage.

But if this Diſeaſe has continued for ſome days, Bleeding, and that plentifully, is the firſt thing neceſſary; then a ſharp Gliſter, with Syrup of Buckthorn, and the Purging Salt, muſt be Adminiſtred, and while it Works, drink the fore-mentioned Apozem, or ſome Draughts of it, and expect ſucceſs, eſpecially if before every Draught you take a Spoonful of the following Mixture.

Of Fennel, and Saxifrage Water, of each an Ounce and half; Salt of Amber a Dram, Tartar vitriolated a Scruple, Millepedes prepar'd two Drams, Syrup of Althea an Ounce Mix.

In a Diabetes.

In which moſt dangerous kind of Diſeaſe, if there be need of a Medicine that will gently purge, and cool very much, this is the ſafeſt of all purging Medicines, and, indeed, the almoſt only one; by the help of which, and the conſtant Uſe of the Chalybeate-Waters, I have recovered ſome young perſons from the very Gates of Death.

In the Jaundice.

Alſo in this Diſeaſe, bleeding is ſeldom to be omitted, but ſometimes to be repeated if the Patient be Feveriſh. Vomits are here very Uſeful, for as much as they exterminate the Morbifick Sordes of the Stomach, as well as preſs out the Boil ſtagnating in its Veſſels; and therefore, if there be occaſion, it ought to be now and then repeated; but if the Uſe of theſe, or other Remedies, prove unſucceſsful, we may ſuſpect the Biliary paſſage is ſtopp'd, either by the bigneſs, or number of the Stones generated there: Therefore we ought to perſiſt in this Method prudently, and with courage.

In any ſort of Jaundice, Calculous or Simple, the Purging Water, or its Salt, is an excellent Medicine, given in this or the following manner.

Take Pill Ruffi half a Dram; Rhubarb, Volatile Salt of Urine, of each half a Scruple, with Syrup of Wormwood; make 6 Pills, and take them at Night going to reſt. The Morning following take this Apozem:

Shavings of Hartſhorn two Ounces, boil them in 3 or 4 Quarts of Water, to two; then add Mace and Turmerick of each a Dram, boil a little, ſtrain and add an Ounce of the bitter Purging Salt, as much Syrup of Steell, and make an Apozem, to be taken as above directed.

If the Phyſician ſees fit, in the place of the Pills give the following Draught.

Take of the Tincture of *Hiera Picra* an Ounce and a half, or two Ounces of Syrup of *Cichory*, with *Rhuburb* an Ounce, *Tartar* vitriolated half a Scruple; mix and take it at ſix or ſeven in the Morning: Two Hours after drink the foregoing Apozem, and repeat theſe Medicines at leaſt every other Day. If *Aloeticks* are too hot, give in their place the Infuſion of *Rhuburb*.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Of the Uſe of the Purging Salt in Cephalick Diſeaſes: And firſt in Madneſs.

WHere, beſides Bleeding and frequent Vomits, Chephalick Unguents, Setons in the Neck, Veſicatories, eſpecially to the Leggs, Catharticks and other Remedies are frequently us'd.

But to quicken the working of all, even the Helleborate Purges, nothing is more proper than the Purging Water, or its Salt, preſcrib'd after the following manner:

Take of Bawm and Borrage of each a handful, infuſe 'em in four or five Pints of boiling Water, in a Veſſel cloſe ſtopt, for half an Hour. To the Infuſion ſtrain'd add of the Bitter Salt ten Drams or leſs, Syrup of Violets three Ounces; mix and make an Apozem, to be drank by it ſelf; or, inſtead of Poſſet-Drink, with any other convenient Purge. Or, take 8 Drams of the Salt in 8 Draughts of the Spaw, or other Chalybeate Water, in a morning faſting.

In the Intervals of other Catharticks, eſpecially in the Summer, 'tis very beneficial, taken in the preceding Method; for it wonderfully quiets the raging Diſorders of the Humours and Perturbations of the Spirits.

In the Head-Ach.

In which Diſtemper, eſpecially ariſing from a hot Cauſe, or in a hot Conſtitution, I have never found any thing ſo efficacious as the following Method:

In the firſt place bleed a ſufficient quantity, and from ſuch Veins as the Circumſtances of the Patient do indicate.

This done, give a Vomit, if the ſtrength will permit: After, let the Patient take the following Medicines:

Of Scammony powder'd, Rhubarb powder'd, *Mercurius dulcis*, each half a Scruple, or 12 Grains, with Syrup of Buckthorn, make five Pills, to be taken at four or five in the Morning, and ſleep after 'em: Three hours after drink the following Apozem:

Of Water aromatiz'd with Mace 3 or 4 Pints, of the Purging Salt 6 Drams, or an Ounce, Syrup of Violets two Ounces; mix and take it, keeping your Chamber.

Repeat

Repeat this Apozem and Pills every 3d or 4th Day, and without the Pills in the intervening Days; and continue this Method for a Fortnight or three Weeks, if the Caſe require it.

In a Virtigo.

Here alſo we muſt begin with Bleeding in the Arms, eſpecially if the Diſeaſe be the conſequence of too much drinking. Then apply Cupping-Glaſſes, with Scarification to the Shoulders and hinder part of the Head. For in this Diſeaſe, as well as in the former, and for Inflamations of the Eyes, I do always preſcribe 'em to that part rather than another, and with better ſucceſs.

Theſe things premis'd, take the following Pills, *&c.* Of Maſtick Pills two Scruples, Chymical Oil of Marjoram 5 Drops. Take 'em at night going to reſt, and next morning the following Apozem.

Of Spring Water aromatiz'd a Quart or three Pints, diſtill'd Water of Sage four Ounces, of Marjoram two Ounces, of the bitter Purging Salt 6 Drams, or an Ounce, mix and make an Apozem, to be taken as afore-mention'd.

Some-

Sometimes 'tis good to take before every Draught a Spoonful of the following Mixture.

Of Marjoram and Sage of each two Drams, Roots of *Gentian*, Species of *Hiera Picra*, of each two Scruples, White-wine four Ounces; digeſt 12 Hours in a cloſe Veſſel, and clarifie the expreſs'd Tincture by ſettling.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Uſe of the Bitter Purging Salt in ſome other Diſeaſes: And firſt in Hyſterical Fits.

IN this Diſeaſe, after the moſt terrible Symptoms are quieted by Opiates, ten or twelve Drams, or two Ounces of the Tincture of *Hiera Picra* in equal parts, White-wine and Hyſterical-water may be given, with very good ſucceſs. But, if the Phyſician thinks fit to purge with a more temperate Medicine, the bitter Salt may be properly and ſafely taken; eſpecially, if, in the room of the Aromatiz'd Water, you uſe the Spaw or Bawm-water, as a Vehicle for the Salt.

In the Wandring Gout, vulgarly, but erroneouſly, call'd the Rhuematiſm.

For this ſeiſes the Muſcular Parts only, and that none but the Joynts. 'Tis a ſtubborn Diſeaſe, and frequently eludes the force of many Medicines.

Bleeding muſt begin, and be repeated at leaſt every other day, to four times; and, if occaſion, to five or ſix.

After the firſt or ſecond time, a Vomit is very proper; for, as long as the Stomach is diſordered, it daily tranſmits a new ſupply of Morbifick Matter to the Blood and Joynts.

But Catharticks, and of the ſtrongeſt, ſometimes for ſeveral days together are never to be omitted; for one ſtrong purge does often weaken this Diſeaſe, more than bleeding 3 or 4 times repeated.

But the operation of the Purging Waters, by the help of their Salt, when the Patient is Feveriſh, (as they almoſt always are) is much more gentle, and performed without any fermentation of the Humours, if taken in the following manner:

Of

Of the Powder of Reſinous Jallap half a Dram, Scammony prepar'd ſix Grains, Calamelany half a Scruple, with Syrup of Buckthorn; make a Bolus to be taken at five in the morniug, ſleeping after it two or three Hours; and then drink the following Apozem. Of Pearl-Barley an Ounce and half, Currance three Ounces; boil in Spring-water to a Quart or 3 Pints, adding towards the latter end Mace half a Dram, and when it is ſtrain'd, of the bitter Salt an Ounce, Flakey-Manna an Ounce, or an Ounce and half. If the Patient be difficultly wrought upon, and other Indications require it, add to the firſt Draught ſix Drams, or an Ounce of the Syrup of Buckthorn, and repeat the Bolus and Apozem every 3d or 4th day, as the Phyſician ſhall Adviſe, or with longer Intervals, till the Patient be perfectly recovered.

In the beginning and increaſe of the Diſeaſe, at leaſt every other Night, and always after a Purge, let a proper Opiate be given to prevent any new Ebullitions of the Humours, and their Influx upon the Joynts. When Purging muſt be forborn, becauſe of a Fever, or the weakneſs of the Patient, Veſicatories are apply'd above or below the Joynt with very great benefit. And

And ſometimes the Serous Latex of the Blood is ſo very hot and fiery, that it will not yield to the united ſtrength of the fore-mention'd Remedies, without the help of Bliſters, to ſeparate ſome part of it from its remaining more Balſamick and gentle. In this Diſeaſe, Sweats, tho' very plentiful, ſeldom profit, but Diureticks very much; and therefore the Apozem, with the Purging Salt, is very proper, working at the ſame time both by Urine and Stooll.

In the time of the Cure, abſtain from all Wine, Vinous and Malt Drinks; Poſſet-Drink is, of all Liquors, the moſt proper for their conſtant Drink.

In a Scorbutick Itch,

Not Contagious, but ariſing from the Scurvy, and affecting ſometimes the whole Body; at others a particular part, as the Pudenda, *&c.* I have often Cur'd with the Apozem alone, without any other Purgings; and ſome perfectly tired out and tormented with perpetual ſcratching, I've bleſt with a happy Deliverance, eſpecially if you join with the Uſe of the Apozem the Chalybeate-Waters, and drink them daily and plentifully inſtead of Malt Drink. This

This Apozem is likewiſe very profitable when the Small-Pox are dry'd off, and may very properly be drank with common Cathartick instead of Poſſet-Drink.

Laſtly, 'Tis good for Travellers, who by much riding, eſpecially in the Summer, are generally Coſtive; but two or three Drams of this Salt, in a Draught of Spring-Water, will cool and relieve them.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Abuſe of the Bitter Waters and their Salt.

'TIS the Duty of a Phyſician, not only to ſhew the Uſe of Remedies, but alſo to Admoniſh the Reader of their Abuſe, by which he prevents a treble injury to himſelf, to the Patient, and the Medicine; therefore this Salt muſt not at all be us'd in ſome Diſeaſes, and in others with particular reſpect had to the Cauſes and Symptoms.

In all Hydropicks 'tis hurtful doubtleſs, becauſe the Natural heat of the Blood is decayed, and the Spirits contain'd in the Grumous part of it are very poor.

Moreover, in ſuch perſons, the Uſe of moiſt

moiſt things, tho' in their Food, do increaſe the Influx of the Serum of the blood into the Morbid parts.

'Tis alſo improper in a Synochus, where tho' the Cauſe of the Diſeaſe muſt be ſometimes leſſen'd by Purges, yet ſuch muſt be moderately hot, as the bitter Potion, *Pill Ruffi*, and the like, by which the Concoction of the Humours may, at the ſame time, be promoted; and therefore all things that cool too much ought to be avoided.

Nor is it good for ſuch as labour under Intermittent Fevers.

Nor in a Chloroſis, or Green-ſickneſs, where warm Fermentations muſt be excited; and becauſe the Humours are too Acid, they muſt be alter'd with ſtronger Alkalies.

This Salt is alſo forbidden to all that ſpit Blood, leſt by its exquiſite Subtilty, and penetrative Force, it ſhould tear open the Mouths of the Arteries.

And in the *Cholera Morbus*, where violent waſtings of the Spirits do attend, as ſudden Evacuations.

To the quieting ſuch turbulent and over-haſty Motions of Nature, Cordials and Opiates are to be given by intervals; but, after the Diſeaſe is tamed, if Evacuation

cuation be needful, the Patient of a Bilious Conſtitution, whether Natural or Accidental, he may take this Salt with a good proſpect of ſucceſs.

'Tis not proper for Paralyticks, leſt it more enervate the Muſcles, already deſtitute of their native Heat and Vigour. But, if the Diſeaſe ariſe from a hot Cauſe, as Wine, or Vinous Liquors, this Salt may be given ſafely and profitably to the Patient.

'Tis not to be given Women with Child, without a great deal of Caution.

Nor in a ſuppreſſion of Urine, before you certainly know it does not proceed from an Ulcer of the Bladder, or a large Stone; for in both Caſes the Patient ought to abſtain from all Diureticks. Otherwiſe we have given it with admirable ſucceſs; I mean, for the forcing away of Urine and Stones of no little magnitude.

FINIS.